Amendments to th Claims

In the Claims

A complete set of the existing claims is set forth below, with the amended claims showing deletions (strikethrough) and insertions (underline).

1.   (Currently amended): A method of composing an electronic document, comprising the steps of:

a)   storing structure ~~region~~ information associated with ~~relating to~~ at least two independently formattable regions in ~~a~~ the electronic document; and

b)   storing content information ~~in~~ for the at least two ~~content fields~~ independently formattable regions in the electronic document, wherein ~~the~~ structure of the electronic document is governed by the structure information and ~~the~~ content of the electronic document is governed by the content information, the structure information and the content information being stored in a single file.

2.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein each independently formattable region ~~field~~ is associated with pre-selected content information ~~assigned a unique content field~~.

3.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, ~~step (c)~~ storing attribute information ~~in at least two attribute fields~~, wherein the attribute information and the content information are associated with the structure ~~region~~ information.

4.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the ~~attributes~~ attribute information comprises ~~comprise~~ at least one of highlighting, bolding, underlining, italicizing, a default language, and a background color.

5.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein each of the independently formattable regions ~~region~~ is associated with at least one of pre-selected ~~a unique~~ content information~~field~~ and ~~or a~~ pre-selected ~~unique~~ attribute information~~field~~.

6.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of the independently formattable regions is associated with a combination of pre-selected content information and pre-selected attribute information ~~region field has a unique combination of the content field and the attribute field~~.

7.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of the independently formattable regions corresponds to a header of an email message, and at least another of the independently formattable regions corresponds to a body of an email message.

8.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the region information, the content information, and the attribute information are contained in a document management file.

9. (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the structure ~~region~~ information, the content information, and the attribute information are contained in a document management table.

10. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the document management table is translated into a standardized markup language prior to transmission of the document across a network.

11. (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of the independently formattable regions ~~a region~~ is associated with ~~having~~ a predetermined name ~~has at least one associated~~ and at least one region default attribute.

12. (Currently amended): The method of claim 11, wherein the ~~associated~~ at least one region default attribute ~~may be~~ capable of being overridden ~~in the associated attribute field~~.

13. (Currently amended): The method of claim 3 further comprising ~~the step (d)~~ translating the electronic document into a plurality of HTML documents.

14. (Currently amended): The method of claim 3 wherein at least one of the content information and~~or~~ the attribute information is linked information.

15.   (Currently amended): The method of claim 3 wherein ~~at least one of~~ the attribute information ~~fields~~ comprises a functional attribute.

16~~14~~. (Currently amended): A system for processing an electronic document, comprising:

    ~~a)~~a storage unit for storing, in a single file, structure ~~region~~ information associated with at least two independently formattable regions in the electronic document, content information associated with content of the electronic document, and attribute information of the electronic document; and

    ~~b)~~a processor unit, wherein the processor unit is adapted to associate at least ~~associates~~ the attribute information and the content information with the structure ~~region~~ information.

17~~15~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim 16~~14~~, wherein the structure~~region~~ information governs ~~the~~ structure of ~~the~~ electronic document, the content information governs ~~the~~ content within each of the independently formattable regions~~region~~, and the ~~attributes region~~ attribute information governs ~~the~~ format of each of the independently formattable regions~~region~~.

18~~16~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~15~~17, wherein the attribute ~~region~~information further governs ~~a~~the functionality associated with a selected ~~particular~~ independently formattable region.

19~~17~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~14~~16, wherein the processor unit translates the ~~region~~ structure information, the content information, and the attribute information, stored in the single file, into at least two documents prior to transmitting each of the documents across a network.

20~~18~~. (Currently amended): A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for storing an electronic document, the computer readable program code comprising:

~~a)~~ computer readable program for storing structure ~~region~~ information corresponding to at least two independently formattable regions of the electronic document; and

~~b)~~ computer readable program for associating attribute information and content information with each of the independently formattable regions, wherein the attribute information governs ~~attributes governing~~ a presentation of the electronic document and the content information governs ~~governing~~ the content of each of the associated independently formattable regions~~region when rendered~~, wherein the structure information and the content information are stored in a single file.

21~~19~~. (Currently amended): The computer usable medium of claim 20~~18~~, wherein the attribute information comprises functional attribute information.

22~~20~~. (Currently amended): The computer usable medium of claim 20~~19~~, wherein the structure ~~region~~ information, the content information, and the attribute information are stored in a document management table.

7

23~~21~~. (Currently amended): A system for processing an electronic document, comprising:

a) storage unit means for storing structure ~~region~~ information <u>relating to at least two independently formattable regions in the electronic document</u>, content information, and attribute information of the electronic document<u>, wherein at least the structure information and the content information are stored in a single file</u>; and

b) processor unit means, wherein the processor unit means associates the attribute information and the content information with the structure ~~region~~ information.

24~~22~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim 23~~21~~, wherein the structure ~~region~~ information governs the structure of the document, the content information governs the content within each <u>of the independently formattable regions</u>~~region~~, and the attributes ~~region~~<u>information</u> governs the format of each <u>of the independently formattable regions</u>~~region~~.

25~~23~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim 24~~22~~, wherein the attribute ~~region~~ information further governs <u>a</u> ~~the~~ functionality associated with a <u>selected</u> ~~particular~~ <u>independently formattable</u> region.

26~~24~~. (Currently amended): The system of claim 23~~21~~, wherein the processor unit means translates the structure ~~region~~ information, the content information, and the attribute information<u>, stored in the single file,</u> into at least two documents prior to transmitting <u>each of the documents</u> across a network.